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Customer Number

PATENT
Docket No.: 58493US003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: MARTIN G. HARTUNG AND MICHAEL KELLER

Application No.: 10/828,656 Confirmation No.: 4923

Filed: April 21, 2004 Group Art Unit: 2838

Examiner: S. Berhanu

Title: PREVENTION OF ELECTRO-CHEMICAL CORROSION AT CHARGING
CONTACTS OF A BATTERY-POWERED HANDPIECE AND ITS CHARGER
DEVICE

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-
1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR § 1.8(a)]

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

- ☐ deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
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April 10, 2008

Date

Signed by: Judy L. Hansen

Dear Sir:

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Berhanu for the courtesy extended to the Applicants' undersigned representative during the telephone conference on April 1, 2008 regarding the captioned United States patent application. During that interview, the Applicants' representative noted that the amendment made to independent claims 32 and 36 to add the term "electrolytic" is believed to distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art of record. "Electrolytic current flow" as that term is used in the pending claims refers to electrical current flow through a fluid or liquid, as described throughout the application as filed. Because the prior art does not disclose or suggest a sensing contact or sensing pin for detecting electrolytic current flow, the independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. And because the dependent

claims all properly depend from allowable claims 32 and 36, those claims are similarly in condition for allowance.

If a further telephonic conference would be useful in resolving any remaining issues in the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at 651-736-4050.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required; please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

8 April 2008

Date

By: 

Peter L. Olson, Reg. No.: 35,308

Telephone No.: 651-736-4050

#443302 Statement of Interview
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833